



For Immediate Release
March 11, 2009

Thomas Grover Middle School Takes Top Prize at Regional Middle School Science Bowl
Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory Hosts Competition

Plainsboro, New Jersey —On Saturday, March 7, Grover Middle School of West Windsor, N.J., won first place at the New Jersey Regional Competition of the National Middle School Science Bowl®. The competition took place at the U.S. Department of Energy's Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory (PPPL) in Plainsboro.

Thomas Grover Middle School was among 14 teams from area schools who competed in the bowl that included two portions - a model hydrogen fuel-cell car competition and an academic, fast-paced question-and-answer contest in which students answer questions about earth, physical, life, and general sciences, and math. Each team is made up of four students, a student alternate, and a teacher who serves as an advisor and coach.

The U.S. Department of Energy sponsors the regional middle school competition; this is the sixth year PPPL has organized it. The Thomas Grover Middle School team will receive an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., to participate in the National Middle School Science Bowl®, scheduled for April 30–May 5, 2009.

Final Results of the regional competition:

1st Place in the Academic Portion — Thomas Grover Middle School (West Windsor, N.J.)

2nd Place in the Academic Portion — Community Middle School (Plainsboro, N.J.)

3rd Place in the Academic Portion — John Witherspoon School (Princeton, N.J.)

1st Place in the Fuel-Cell Car Portion — John Witherspoon School (Princeton, N.J.)

2nd Place in the Fuel-Cell Car Portion — Joyce Kilmer School (Trenton, N.J.)

3rd Place in the Fuel-Cell Car Portion — Fisher Middle School (Ewing, N.J.)

Civility Award — Glenfield Middle School (Montclair, N.J.)

PPPL hosts one of 68 regional competitions, all of which are sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy. The top winners of the regional competitions receive all-expense paid trips to the National Science Bowl® scheduled for April 30–May 5 in Washington, D.C.

Participating schools in the tournament at PPPL this year were:

B.C. Gregory School (Trenton, N.J.)

Burlington City Junior School (Burlington, N.J.)

Columbus School (Trenton, N.J.)

Community Middle School (Plainsboro, N.J.)

Darul Arqam School (South River, N.J.)

East Hanover Middle School (East Hanover, N.J.)
Fisher Middle School (Ewing, N.J.)
Glenfield Middle School (Montclair, N.J.)
John Adams Middle School (Edison, N.J.)
John Witherspoon School (Princeton, N.J.)
Joyce Kilmer School (Trenton, N.J.)
Matawan Aberdeen Middle School (Cliftwood, N.J.)
Thomas Grover Middle School (Plainsboro, N.J.)
Trenton Community Charter School (Trenton, N.J.)

PPPL, funded by the U.S. Department of Energy and managed by Princeton University, is a collaborative national center for science and innovation leading to an attractive fusion energy source. Fusion is the process that powers the sun and the stars. In the interior of stars, matter is converted into energy by the fusion, or joining, of the nuclei of light atoms to form heavier elements.

For more about PPPL go to: <http://www.pppl.gov/>

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